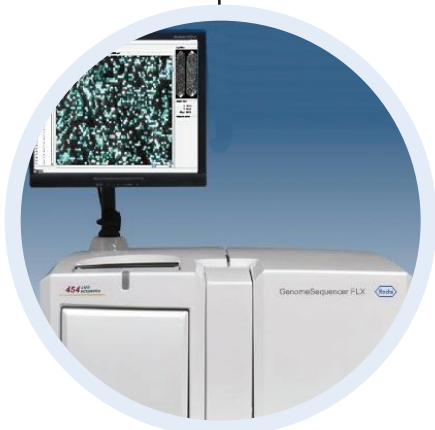


Proprietary Thermoforming Process Meets Design Constraints

For 454 Life Sciences Cost and Color are Key Factors



Results

ThermoFab delivers a quality, cost-effective product on time and within budget.

454 Life Sciences continues to deliver these systems to its customers with follow-on production orders with ThermoFab. 454 hopes to work with ThermoFab as it designs the next generation of genome sequencing technology.

Quality tooling, color expertise, and happily-met deadlines. What more could you ask for?

Challenge

When people from 454 Life Sciences approached ThermoFab, they had a complete design in place for their Genome Sequencer System™ but needed to have it manufactured. Due to the start up nature of the project, they were looking for inexpensive tooling that would off-set initial production costs. In addition, 454 Life Sciences selected a difficult paint to work with, in a color that is rarely used in the industry.

The System would live in sensitive environments, such as hospitals, corporate settings, or university research laboratories, and would house a technology for labs to use in sequencing entire runs of human genomes for use in genetic studies and ongoing research.

The timeframe for production was a sensitive issue, as 454 Life Sciences had already taken orders for its new system. The company wanted to get it into the hands of scientists as quickly as possible since it was committed to helping aid the advancement of genetic research.

Solution – In-House Expertise Delivers

ThermoFab was happy to present its innovative thermoforming process to 454 Life Sciences to meet the demands of the Genome Sequencer System™ design. Thermoforming was the ideal approach, and ThermoFab was able to produce the detailed tooling on-site at their facility in Shirley, Massachusetts.

In choosing cost-effective tooling for the project, 454 Life Sciences was open to accepting a higher piece price for the project without sacrificing quality. This worked well within 454's production budget, as it was meeting orders already taken for the System. With the tooling and piece price ratio in line, it was clear that thermoforming was the right approach.

ThermoFab's in-house color expert ensured that the unique paint selection created no problems with delivery, time frames or cost, a major benefit of working with a company that maintains in-house specialists.

76 Walker Road, Shirley, Massachusetts 01464 USA

T 888.494.9777 • F 978.425.2305 • engineering@thermofab.com • www.thermofab.com

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